

Sub A1 > **WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:**

1. A digital camera comprising:

an imaging unit for imaging a subject at a fixed period by a solid-state electronic image sensing device and outputting a video signal, which represents the image of the subject obtained by imaging, upon 5 downsampling the video signal at a given downsampling ratio;

an electronic-zoom command unit for applying an 10 electronic zoom command and a zoom magnification;

a zoom unit for subjecting the video signal output from said imaging unit to electronic zoom processing in accordance with the zoom magnification, which has been applied from said electronic-zoom command unit, in such 15 a manner that an image represented by the video signal output from said imaging unit will be enlarged;

a display control unit for performing control in such a manner that the image represented by the video signal output from said imaging unit will be displayed 20 on said display device; and

a downsampling-ratio control unit for reducing the downsampling ratio in response to application of the electronic zoom command from said electronic-zoom command unit.

25 2. The camera according to claim 1, wherein said downsampling-ratio control unit reduces the downsampling ratio by making number of lines of an image represented by a video signal that has undergone zoom processing by

said zoom unit greater than number of lines of an image represented by a video signal output from said imaging unit.

3. The camera according to claim 1, wherein said
5 imaging unit outputs a video signal in sync with a
synchronization signal applied thereto; and

said downsampling-ratio control unit reduces the downsampling ratio in sync with the synchronization signal.

10 4. The camera according to claim 1, wherein the camera
is provided with a mode setting unit for setting an
image-quality priority mode;

said downsampling-ratio control unit reducing the downsampling ratio when the image-quality priority mode has been set by said mode setting unit.

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5. A digital camera having an imaging unit for imaging a subject at a fixed period by a solid-state electronic image sensing device and outputting a video signal, which represents the image of the subject obtained by

20 imaging, upon downsampling the video signal at a given
downsampling ratio, said method comprising the steps of:

applying an electronic zoom command and a zoom magnification;

subjecting the video signal output from the imaging unit to electronic zoom processing in accordance with the applied zoom magnification in such a manner that an image represented by the video signal output from the imaging unit will be enlarged;

displaying the image represented by the video signal, which has been subjected to the electronic zoom processing, on the display device; and

5 reducing the downsampling ratio in response to application of the electronic zoom command.

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